GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:949
ANSWERED ON:04.12.2015
Healthcare Expenditure
Azad Shri Kirti (JHA)

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the cost of healthcare in India has inflated in double digits, thus outpacing average inflation rates;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the steps taken by the Government to address the issue;

(c) whether the Government is aware that 86% of rural patients and 82% urban patients in the country do not have access to employer provided or state funded insurance; and

(d) if so, the details thereof along with the steps taken by the Government to address the issue?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
(SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA)
(a) & (b) As per the Publication "Key Indicators of Social Consumption in India- Health", released in June, 2015 by the NSSO, the Average total medical and other related non-medical expenditure per hospitalisation in rural and urban areas are Rs.16,956/- and Rs.26,455/- respectively and Average total medical expenditure for non- hospitalized treatment per ailing person in rural and urban areas are Rs.509/- and Rs.639/- respectively. Whereas as per the estimates published in "Morbidity and Healthcare and the condition of the aged" (60th Round January-June, 2004) the average medical expenditure incurred per hospitalised case in rural and urban areas were Rs.5,695/- and Rs.8,851/- respectively and the Average total medical expenditure for non-hospitalised treatment per ailing person in rural and urban areas were Rs. 257/- and Rs.306/- respectively.

Based on the Wholesale Price Indices data (base year 2004-05) published by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry the Annual Average Wholesale Price Index inflation rate for the period 2004-05 to 2014-15 is 6.15%.

Contdâ€¦â€¦..

The Government of India is committed to strengthening the outreach of public health facilities by expanding public health infrastructure and service delivery. Under the National Health Mission, the Government seeks to inter-alia strengthen the health infrastructure in the primary and secondary sector by providing support to States for new construction/ upgradation/renovation of health care facilities, strengthen First Referral Units and operationalise more 24Ã—7 facilities, augment human resources by encouraging States for engaging health personnel including doctors, nurses and para-medics. Financial and technical support is provided to the State/UT Governments to move towards Universal Health Coverage (UHC) based on the proposals made by them in their Programme Implementation Plans. Accordingly, support is extended to the State/UT Governments through various programmes under NHM like the Janani Suraksha Yojana, Janani Shishu Suraksha Karyakram, Rashtriya Bal Swasthya Karyakaram (RBSK), Universal Immunization Programme (UIP) Family Planning Programme, Revised National TB Control Programme, National AIDS Control Programme, National Vector Borne Disease Control Programme etc. to provide free healthcare for maternal & child health and for prevention and treatment of key communicable diseases. A comprehensive National Programme for Prevention and Control of Cancer, Diabetes, Cardiovascular diseases and Stroke (NPCDCS) for activities including health promotion, early detection and treatment of Cancer, Diabetes, Cardiovascular diseases and Stroke, has also been initiated.

(c): As per the publication titled "Key Indicators of Social Consumption in India Health - NSS 71st Round (January-June 2014)" brought out by the National Sample Survey Organization (NSSO), Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, 86% of rural population and 82% of urban population were still not covered under any scheme of health expenditure support.
(d): Public Health being a State subject, primary responsibility to provide affordable healthcare to all its citizens lies with the State Governments. However, the Government under the Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojna (RSBY) scheme also provide smart card based cashless health insurance, including maternity benefit, cover of Rs. 30,000/- per annum on a family floater basis to vulnerable/ BPL families (a unit of five) in the unorganized sector.